

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

DATE: October 5, 2007

SUBJECT: Reports of Significant Developments and Activities
Ending on September 28, 2007

FROM: Ralph Dollhopf, Acting Division Director
Superfund Division

TO: Mary A. Gade
Regional Administrator

Bharat Mathur
Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities and training/conferences:

SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES

Emergency Response, Des Plaines Street Viaduct Site, Chicago, Illinois

On September 21, 2007, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Ken Theisen received a request from the City of Chicago Department of Environment (CDOE) for assistance in investigating an abandoned semi-trailer containing drums of suspected hazardous wastes. OSC Ken Theisen met with CDOE representatives and inventoried 38 drums of spent carbon, mercury switches, thermostats, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) light ballasts, and various types of batteries and electrical equipment. U.S. EPA is making arrangements for removal and proper disposal of the drummed wastes.

Contact: Ken Theisen (312-886-1959)

Emergency Response, Residential Mercury Spill, Lincoln, Illinois

On September 10, 2007, a private citizen reported a residential mercury spill from her mother's blood pressure monitor to the Logan County Health Department (LCHD) in Lincoln, Illinois. According to the tenant, while moving from one apartment to another apartment during the week of September 3 to 7, 2007, she observed small mercury beads in her station wagon. Also, free

mercury was observed three months prior to moving, inside the old apartment in the mother's bed and on the kitchen table. LCHD notified the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) on September 11, 2007. An IDPH representative, conducted air monitoring in both apartments and detected very high levels of mercury in the breathing zone. The mother's bloodstream also tested positive for high levels of mercury during a routine doctor's visit on September 7, 2007. IDPH advised the tenant to vacate the new apartment and open windows to vent. Based on the mercury levels, IDPH notified the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Branch on September 12, 2007. On September 13, 2007, U.S. EPA and the WESTON Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) mobilized to the site and conducted a site assessment. A removal action took place from September 15 to 19, 2007. During this period of time all contaminated items were bagged and placed in 55-gallon drums for disposal. Both apartments were decontaminated and the tenants were allowed to return to their residence.

Contact: Stavros Emmanouil (312-886-1768)

Removal Assessment, Comet Fireworks Display Company, Lisbon, Ohio

On September 26, 2007, at the request of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), On-Scene Coordinator Jim Augustyn, with the assistance from the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START), conducted a removal assessment at the Comet Fireworks Display Company site, Lisbon, Ohio. The company manufactured fireworks and had a small retail store. As a result of numerous operating violations, the owner voluntarily relinquished his Federal Explosives License on July 26, 2007. ATF with the assistance of the Youngstown Bomb Squad detonated all high explosive materials that were on the property. There are several storage trailers and explosive storage magazines at the facility that contain numerous drums and smaller containers of hazardous substances labeled as poisons, flammable solids, and oxidizers. A complete inventory of material found on the site will be turned over to Ohio EPA's Cessation of Regulated Operations (CRO) Program. The CRO Program requires the owner to properly remove all hazardous materials within 90 days.

OSC Jim Augustyn will work with Ohio EPA and the State Fire Marshall's Office to insure the materials are properly

transferred to another licensed operating facility or properly disposed.

Contact: Jim Augustyn (440-250-1742)

Record of Decision Issued, Outboard Marine Corporation Superfund Site, Waukegan, Illinois

On September 10, 2007, Region 5 issued a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Superfund site, Operable Unit (OU) 4, Waukegan, Illinois. OU4 is also known as the OMC Plant 2 site. OMC manufactured outboard motors in the Plant 2 facility from about 1948 until it declared bankruptcy in December 2000. Upon abandonment, U.S. EPA quickly performed a removal action to stabilize Plant 2 and remove immediate chemical hazards from the building. The Agency also began a remedial investigation and feasibility study (RI/FS). The Agency found levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) that would create unacceptable risks. This ROD calls for the Agency to demolish the building and to excavate contaminated soil and sediment above risk-based cleanup levels with disposal of all contaminated materials off-site. The estimated cost of the cleanup is \$21 million.

The RI also identified a groundwater contaminant plume beneath the site, as well as non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPLs). High levels of trichloroethene (TCE) and vinyl chloride were detected, as well as a TCE NAPL and a PCB-oil NAPL. The Agency elected to conduct several pilot-scale treatability studies of in situ groundwater and NAPL cleanup methods before issuing a second ROD for these media. The Agency expects to issue this ROD by September 2008 and discuss institutional controls at that time.

Contact: Kevin Adler (312-886-7078)

Record of Decision Issued, Allied Chemical & Ironton Coke Superfund Site, Ironton, Ohio

On September 20, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued a third Record of Decision (ROD) for the Allied Chemical & Ironton Coke Superfund site in Ironton, Ohio. This third ROD represents the final remedy for the site. The site is divided into three operable units (OUs). The remedies for OU1 were documented in a 1988 ROD. The remedies for OU2 were documented in a 1990 ROD and three ROD amendments in 1995, 1997, and 1999. These previous RODs and ROD Amendments included containment and hydraulic

controls, groundwater extraction with onsite treatment, as well as excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil. This third and final ROD is for the Tar Plant on the site and requires installation of a solid waste cap and excavation and off-site disposal of contaminated soil and sediment, as well as implementation of institutional controls.

The Tar Plant was an operating facility until December 2000. Honeywell Corporation closed the plant pursuant to Resource Conservation and Recovery Act requirements. All that remained was contaminated soil and the potential for contaminated sediment in the adjacent Ohio River, which Honeywell agreed to investigate pursuant to an Administrative Order in 2003. Honeywell continues to extract and treat contaminated groundwater and also extracts non-aqueous phase liquids (sent to another Honeywell facility for blending into fuel). Portions of the site are already reused.

Contact: Syed Quadri (312-886-5736)

Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use Determination Issued, Wedzeb Enterprise, Inc., Superfund Site, Lebanon, Indiana

On September 21, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued a Sitewide Ready for Anticipated Use (Sitewide RAU) Determination for the Wedzeb Enterprise, Inc., Superfund site in Lebanon, Indiana. A Record of Decision was issued for the site on June 30, 1989, and an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) was issued on August 24, 1990. The remedial actions required for the site included: removal of contaminated sediment from a sanitary sewer and removal of contaminated soil along the southeastern edge of the site. Since the remedial actions met cleanup standards allowing for Unlimited Use and Unrestricted Exposure, no institutional controls were required. This site has been deleted from the National Priorities List and this determination confirms that the site is ready for reuse. The current property owner uses the site for storage and staging purposes.

Contact: Giang-Van Nguyen (312-886-6726)

Settlement Reached, HA International, LLC, Oregon, Illinois

On September 21, 2007, the U.S. EPA filed a joint Administrative Complaint and Consent Agreement and Final Order against HA International, LLC, Oregon, Illinois. This action alleged violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Section 103 and the

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Sections 312 and 313. HA International, LLC failed to report continuous releases of phenol in excess of the 1,000 pound CERCLA reportable quantity. HA International, LLC failed to include urea on the Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory form that was due to the State Emergency Response Commission, the Local Emergency Planning Committee, and the local fire department with jurisdiction over the facility for calendar year 2005, by March 1, 2006. HA International, LLC also failed to include ammonia on the Toxic Release Inventory form for calendar years 2002, 2003, and 2004. HA International has agreed to pay a cash penalty of \$18,763 for the EPCRA Section 313 violations. HA International, LLC did meet the criteria for 100 percent mitigation of the CERCLA Section 103 and EPCRA Section 312 penalty.

Contacts: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)
 Terrance Bonace (312-886-3387)
 Steve Kaiser (312-353-3804)

**Record of Decision Amendment Issued, Neal's Landfill
 (Bloomington) Superfund Site, Bloomington, Indiana**

On September 25, 2007, a Record of Decision (ROD) Amendment was signed for the Neal's Landfill (Bloomington) Superfund site located in Bloomington, Indiana. The selected remedy addresses groundwater and sediment contaminated by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) from springs on the site. Neal's Landfill is one of six sites that are part of a Consent Decree that was not implemented and is being renegotiated. The Neal's Landfill ROD Amendment is the final remedy modification. A total of seven ROD Amendments and three Action Memoranda have been used to change the remedies for the six sites. The negotiations are being completed under the supervision of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Indiana. The parties to the Consent Decree include U.S. EPA, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, City of Bloomington, Monroe County, and CBS Corporation. The parties expect to have a Consent Decree entered by the end of the calendar year and design and construction will begin immediately after entry of the Consent Decree.

Contact: Tom Alcamo (312-886-7278)

**Five-Year Review Report Completed, Pagel's Pit Superfund Site,
 Winnebago County, Illinois**

On September 24, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the second Five-Year Review Report for the Pagel's Pit Superfund site located about five miles south of Rockford, Illinois. The remedy selected for the site includes: a sanitary landfill cover for the waste disposal area; leachate extraction and transfer of the leachate to the local publicly owned treatment works; gas extraction and the use of the gas for fuel or the flaring of the gas; groundwater restoration via monitored natural attenuation (with a contingency active remediation if necessary); long-term monitoring; and deed restrictions limiting the development of the property.

The five-year review concluded that the remedy is protective of human health and the environment in the short term because exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risks are being controlled. However, in order for the remedy to be protective in the long term, the existing deed restrictions need to be evaluated to ensure effectiveness, and additional institutional controls are necessary.

Contact: Bernard Schorle (312-886-4746)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, Acme Solvent Reclaiming (Morristown Plant) Superfund Site, Winnebago County, Illinois

On September 21, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the third Five-Year Review Report for the Acme Solvent Reclaiming (Morristown Plant) site, located approximately five miles south of Rockford, Illinois. The remedy selected for the site includes: thermal desorption of excavated soil; solidification/stabilization of soil residuals; placement of a cover over the soil residuals; soil vapor extraction for other contaminated soil; provision of a permanent alternate water supply to users with contaminated wells; extraction and treatment of contaminated groundwater and discharge to surface water; long-term groundwater monitoring; fencing; and provision of some institutional controls.

The five-year review concluded that the remedy is protective of human health and the environment in the short term because exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risks are being controlled. However, in order for the remedy to be protective in the long term, groundwater cleanup standards need to be achieved and effective institutional controls need to be implemented.

Contact: Bernard Schorle (312-886-4746)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, Continental Steel Superfund Site, Kokomo, Indiana

On September 4, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the second Five-Year Review Report for the Continental Steel Superfund site located in Kokomo, Indiana. Remedial action remains to be done, as funding permits, at the site. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) has performed an interim closure action at the acid lagoon area, and a residential soil removal action. The U.S. EPA has performed removal actions at the main plant and Markland Avenue quarry. An interim Record of Decision (ROD) for the demolition and decontamination of the main plant buildings was signed in 1996 and the work was completed in 2000. A ROD for the entire site was signed in 1998 and amended in 2003. The final remedial actions for the creeks and main plant are currently under construction.

The five-year review concluded that for the creeks, the remedy is protective in the short-term, and upon removal of contaminated sediment, the remedy should be protective in the long-term. For the main plant, the protectiveness determination cannot be made because additional investigation is necessary. Further information is needed to determine whether the remedial actions for the other areas, when implemented, would function as intended. Finally, some additional institutional controls will be required and the existing institutional controls need to be evaluated to ensure long-term effectiveness.

Contact: Nabil Fayoumi (312-886-6840)

Five-Year Review Report Completed, Outboard Marine Corporation Superfund Site, Waukegan, Illinois

On September 26, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the third Five-Year Review Report for the Outboard Marine Corporation (OMC) Superfund site in Waukegan, Illinois. The site is divided into operable units: Waukegan Harbor; Waukegan Manufactured Gas and Coke Plant; Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) Cells; and Plant 2. A potentially responsible party cleaned up the harbor from 1990-1993, removing PCBs from harbor sediment and certain areas around its then-operating facility to achieve a 50 parts per million (ppm) cleanup level.

The Five-Year Review Report notes that the Waukegan Harbor site remedy was constructed in accordance with the requirements of the 1984 Record of Decision (ROD) and 1989 ROD Amendment, but it is not protective because PCB levels in harbor-caught fish are too high for unlimited human consumption. U.S. EPA plans to select a protective cleanup action for the harbor in 2008. The 1999 ROD remedy for the coke plant is underway and when the work is completed, it will be protective in the long-term. Current engineering controls maintain short-term protectiveness. The PCB Containment Cells are protective in the short-term because they are being operated and maintained as designed and no PCBs are escaping into the environment. Long-term protectiveness will require the placement of institutional controls on the cells.

Contact: Kevin Adler (312-886-7078)

**Five-Year Review Report Completed, Arrowhead Refinery Co.
Superfund Site, Hermantown, Minnesota**

On September 27, 2007, the Region 5 Superfund Division issued the third five-year review for the Arrowhead Refinery Superfund site located in Hermantown, Minnesota. There were three phases of site cleanup: the source material phase, the contaminated soils and sediments phase, and the groundwater phase. The remedial actions for the source materials, soil, and sediments consisted of excavation, treatment onsite and off-site disposal. The groundwater remedy consisted of a water main extension and residential user connections and a french drain from which contaminated groundwater was pumped to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). The groundwater remedy is currently in a trial shutdown with groundwater monitoring being conducted.

The five-year review determined that the remedy is expected to be or is protective of human health and the environment, and in the interim, exposure pathways that could result in unacceptable risks are being controlled. However, in order for the remedy to be protective in the long-term, the following actions need to be taken. Trial shutdown groundwater monitoring will be performed for several more years to verify that groundwater cleanup goals have been achieved and protectiveness is maintained. Groundwater will be monitored to determine if surface water is being impacted at the site. An institutional control plan will be prepared so that long-term stewardship is ensured.

Contact: Darryl Owens (312-886-7089)

Risk Management Program Inspections Conducted, Moline, Illinois

On September 18, 2007, Edward Bordy of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at the Moline South Treatment Plant in Moline, Illinois. This facility is a wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the inspection was to review the facility's Risk Management Planning (RMP) that it developed for the use of chlorine. The inspection report will be evaluated by CEPPS staff.

On September 19, 2007, Edward Bordy, of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS), conducted an inspection at North Slope Treatment Plant in Moline, Illinois. This facility is a wastewater treatment plant. The purpose of the inspection was to review the facility's RMP that it developed for the use of chlorine. The inspection report will be evaluated by CEPPS staff.

Contact: Edward Bordy (312-353-3191)

Risk Management Program Inspection Conducted, Bloomington Water Treatment Plant, Bloomington, Minnesota

On September 17, 2007, Greg Chomycia of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at the Bloomington Water Treatment Plant in Bloomington, Minnesota. The facility uses chlorine in its drinking water treatment process. The purpose of the inspection was to review the Risk Management Planning (RMP) that the facility has in place as required under the RMP regulations mandated under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act. The inspection report will be evaluated by CEPPS staff.

Contact: Greg Chomycia (312-353-8217)

Risk Management Program Inspection Conducted, Burnsville Water Treatment Plant, Burnsville, Minnesota

On September 17, 2007, Greg Chomycia of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS), conducted an inspection at Burnsville Water Treatment Plant in Burnsville, Minnesota. The facility uses chlorine in its drinking water treatment process. The purpose of the inspection was to review the Risk Management Planning (RMP) that the facility has in place as required under the RMP regulations mandated under Section

112(r) of the Clean Air Act. The inspection report will be evaluated by the CEPPS staff.

Contact: Greg Chomycia (312-353-8217)

Risk Management Program Inspection Conducted, CF Industries, Inc., Rosemont, Minnesota

On September 18, 2007, Greg Chomycia of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at CF Industries in Rosemont, Minnesota. The facility handles and stores anhydrous ammonia. The purpose of the inspection was to review the Risk Management Planning (RMP) that the facility has in place as required under the Risk Management Planning regulations mandated under Section 112(r) of the Clean Air Act. The inspection report will be evaluated by the CEPPS staff.

Contact: Greg Chomycia (312-353-8217)

Risk Management Program Inspection Conducted, Genencor International Wisconsin, Inc., Beloit, Wisconsin

On September, 19, 2007, Bob Mayhugh of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at Genencor International Wisconsin, Inc., in Beloit, Wisconsin. The purpose of the inspection was to determine if the facility is in compliance with the Risk Management Program (RMP) as required by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Genencor International Wisconsin, Inc., is an industrial biotechnology facility that manufactures enzymes through a fermentation based process. The facility uses anhydrous ammonia above the RMP reporting threshold in the fermentation process. The inspection report will be evaluated by the CEPPS staff.

Contact: Bob Mayhugh (312-886-5929)

Risk Management Program Inspection Conducted, Miller Brewery, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

On September 20, 2007, Bob Mayhugh of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) conducted an inspection at Miller Breweries East Milwaukee Brewery in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The purpose of the inspection was to determine the facilities compliance with the Risk Management

Planning (RMP) as required by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Miller Brewery uses anhydrous ammonia above the RMP reporting threshold as part of their refrigeration system. The inspection report will be evaluated by the CEPPS staff.

Contact: Bob Mayhugh (312-886-5929)

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises, State of Michigan

On September 18-21, 2007, Ann Whelan, Sheila Calovich, and P.C. Lall visited five facilities in Michigan where they conducted unannounced drills. The facilities that participated in unannounced drills included: 1) Escanaba Paper Company, 2) Construction Resources Management, 3) BP Cheboygan Terminal, 4) SEM Materials, and 5) Citgo Ferrysburg Terminal. All of the facilities successfully passed their drills.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

Oil Pollution Act Government Initiated Unannounced Exercises, State of Minnesota

On September 25-26, 2007, Sheila Calovich and Alex Tzallas visited four facilities in Minnesota where they conducted unannounced drills. The facilities that participated in unannounced drills included: 1) Bongards Creameries, 2) Xcel Energy, 3) Tex Par Energy and 4) Flint Hills. All of the facilities successfully passed their drills.

This concludes the Oil Pollution Act unannounced drill program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007. The Oil Section staff conducted a total of 30 unannounced exercises and 6 facility response plan inspections. This year there were two exercise failures (a six percent failure rate). In FY 2006, the failure rate was thirty percent. It was observed that many facilities have acquired their own response equipment, specifically containment equipment.

Contact: Sheila Calovich (312-353-1505)

Ohio EPA Air Monitoring Training, Columbus, Ohio

On September 24-25, 2007, U.S. EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)

James Justice, with support from the U.S. EPA Emergency Response Team (ERT), provided training to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) Office of Special Investigations and Division of Emergency and Remedial Response. At the request of Ohio EPA, U.S. EPA provided specific training on set-up, deployment, use, and troubleshooting of the AreaRAE air monitoring system to the Office of Special Investigations. Approximately 10 people attended the training which focused on the advantages and disadvantages of the system, tips for deployment, and upgrades to the system that were developed by U.S. EPA ERT to increase the range of the wireless system. Additional training on U.S. EPA response capabilities, air monitoring, and data collection and storage was provided to the Ohio EPA On-Scene Coordinators. Specific topics of discussion were the AreaRAE system, U.S. EPA developed RAT system, NARAC plume modeling, specific U.S. EPA resources that are available for emergency responses and coordination of data collections efforts in small to large responses involving multiple Federal, State, and local agencies, in addition to private entities. Approximately 20 people attended the additional training and the feedback was positive and Ohio EPA expressed interest in additional training on the U.S. EPA developed products to assist in data collection and management.

Contacts: James Justice (734-692-7687)
Jon Gulch (734-692-7688)

**Rouge River Water Festival, Cranbrook Institute of Science,
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan**

On September 14, 2007, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) James Justice and Michelle Jaster participated in the tenth annual Rouge River Water Festival at the Cranbrook Institute of Science. Approximately 1500 fifth grade students from Oakland County elementary schools in the Rouge River watershed attended the festival over the course of three days. Student and teachers attended a wide variety of presentations centered on water, its uses, and its critical importance to us and our environment. The OSCs delivered presentations to over 75 students throughout the day. These presentations focused on the role U.S. EPA plays in protecting the environment, emergency response work, and oil spill cleanups.

Contact: Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)

Department of Homeland Security Exercise Planning Course,

Chicago, Illinois

On September 25-27, 2007, Glenn Cekus of the Chemical Emergency Preparedness and Prevention Section (CEPPS) completed the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program Training Course held at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 5 in Chicago, Illinois. The course covered the nationwide exercising planning and implementation program developed by the Department of Homeland Security for use at all levels of government for all types of exercise programs. The course will help CEPPS work better with county emergency managers when designing, conducting and evaluating Local Emergency Planning Committee/Risk Management Plan exercises.

Contact: Glenn Cekus (312-353-6449)

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